



<http://www.mn-arts.org/>

***Don't forget to sign up on the reflector!!***

### **From the President**

As many do, I am reflecting on our first year as the Minnesota Amateur Radio Technical Society. It was an exciting first year culminating with our largest group yet at our December meeting – 32 packed the house ... that is, the room for Gary's, W0DYD, great presentation on Oscilloscopes 101! I can't wait to see how we handle it when all 50+ members show up at once.

Our year started off with a great build-a-thon and the FYBO station in the parking lot in February. We also voted on incorporation and our first board in March. Throughout the year we had great presentations from distinguished members which were recorded and are available on our website ([www.mn-arts.org](http://www.mn-arts.org)) thanks to our webmaster, Jeremy, KC0LDI. Steve, NW0C, also kept us informed with a top-notch newsletter that goes out to you each month – past copies are also available on the website. Thanks to both of them for providing these important communication avenues for us. Our hope is to not only have great meetings, but to create a meaningful website that has many useful resources. If you have any creative ideas on making this happen, please let us know.

We concluded the year with our second election in December for three board positions: Vice President – Larry, KB0R; Treasurer – Paul, N0TYE; and Board Member at large went to the new guy – Tom, WM0SS. Congratulations to each of them and a heartfelt thank you for serving the group in this capacity.

So thank you for making this an awesome club to belong to – I know I've had a great time and I hope you have too. Let's keep the excitement going in 2013 by telling our friends about this group so that we can continue to grow. And on that note I want to wish all of you a Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, and a Happy New Year to you and your families during this holiday season. If you are traveling, be safe. We are looking forward to an exciting 2013. See you January 5<sup>th</sup>.

73 de chuck ka8hde dit dit

### **January Presentation**

**Remote Station Control** – the basics of setting up remote control of your shack computer from an outside location. The issues involved in setting up a secure connection with your home PC will be discussed and step by step instructions

will be provided which will walk you through the process should you wish to add this capability to your shack.

### **December 1, 2012 Meeting Minutes**

Chuck, KA8HDE, presided at 1:30. Introductions were made around the table.

32 were in attendance.

Minutes from the November 3, 2012 meeting were approved.

Treasurer's report: Paul Bushouse/N0TYE reports that we have \$920 in our account. One new member signed up during November.

### **Old Business:**

- Chuck, KA8HDE, reminded the group that elections were to be held at the meeting for the vice president, treasurer and board member at large positions. Larry Gaalaas/KB0R agreed to another term as vice president. Paul Bushouse/N0TYE agreed to another term as treasurer and Tom Kent/ WM0SS volunteered for the board member at large position. The group did not put any other names forth. Larry, Paul and Tom ran unopposed and were unanimously approved by all present.
- Chuck, KA8HDE, requested input for the February meeting. He passed around a QRP dummy load he built from a Hendricks kit and the Hendricks SMK-2 which Les Bearl/N0PPF brought in last month was further discussed. This kit now comes with a chassis and a small

add on board for additional crystals. Steve, NW0C, had ordered one, but it had not come in by the time of the meeting. (It has since arrived and is nicely packaged complete with a U shaped aluminum chassis as shown on the web site.)

There was also some discussion about the Twofer kit offered by Hendricks, but this is now out of production.

It was decided that Chuck would send an e-mail to the members to find out who wanted to order a kit. Orders will then be placed.

Additionally, members can bring in a project of their own for the February meeting if they prefer. There will be soldering tools, good magnifiers and some test equipment available to use at the meeting for those that might need to use them.

Finally, it was agreed that the group would operate the Minnesota QSO Party and make some FYBO contacts along with the Minnetonka club. We will coordinate frequencies with the groups operating in the parking lot and inside the building.

- The club has a new call sign, KD0TRM which will be used at our upcoming events. The group would like to get a vanity call that better identifies the club and Chuck, KA8HDE, will investigate this. There was no objection to paying the FCC fee for the call.
- Paperwork has been submitted for ARRL club affiliation. We hope to hear back soon.

## New Business:

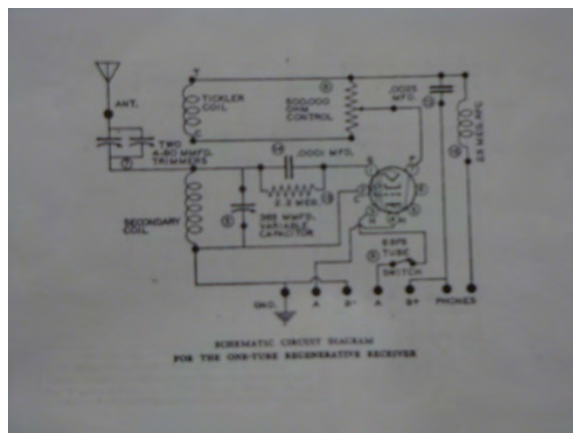
- Russ Ramierez,/KOWFS offered to do a presentation on the various digital modes. Tom Kent will arrange a time for this.
- *Next meeting will be January 5th.*

Business meeting adjourned at 2:10 PM.

## Show & Tell

- Kurt Nordwall/KD0LKC brought in parts and schematic for an old time regenerative receiver built around a 6BF6 tube. Kurt discussed the problem of how to obtain the old time coils and showed us his solution using PVC pipe that he turned on his lathe. A discussion ensued about alternative methods to building the coils. Kurt also brought in a couple of metal chassis he constructed for this project. He also mentioned that

earlier in the day he had a CW contact with Slovinia using ~ 35 watts. We are anxious to see how this retro project develops!



- Craig Johnson/AA0ZZ discussed the Small Wonders Lab Retro AM kit which has been discontinued. He and Mert Nellis/W0UFO thought that it might make a great club project and learning experience. The thought was to rework the design and resolve some of the gain and modulation issues. Mert brought in the parts to wind a beefier modulation transformer and also had some alternative design ideas. They thought the idea of a low power AM transceiver was something many in the club could construct using manhattan style building techniques. This type of radio provides good local coverage with just a few watts out. They managed to secure two of the original kits which were in various stages of operation and wondered if anyone else had obtained one of the kits that would be willing to take part in some testing.

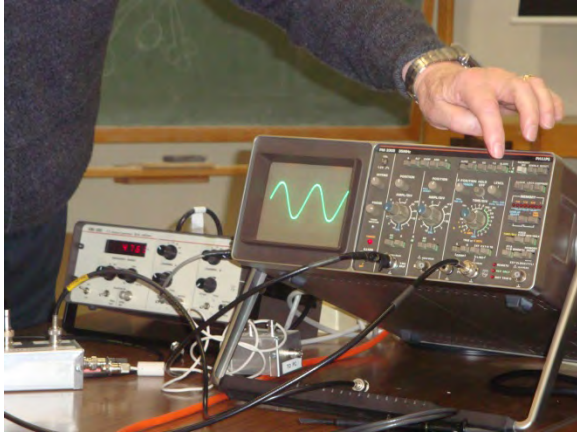


Retro AM Kit from Small Wonders Labs









Respectfully submitted,  
Steve, NW0C

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**Club Officers:**

*President:* Chuck Stroud/KA8HDE  
*Vice Pres:* Larry Gaalaas/KB0R  
*Secretary:* Steve Ulrich/NW0C  
*Treasurer:* Paul Bushouse/N0TYE  
*At Large:* Tom Kent

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